

Appl. No. 10/028,125
Amendment and/or Response
Reply to Office action of 19 December 2003

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Amendments to the Claims:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A pocket ~~suitable for incorporating in a garment, luggage item, personal accessory, or the like, said pocket including restriction means comprising:~~

a restrictor that is configured to restrict the insertion of objects into, or removal of objects from the pocket,

~~the restrictor restriction means~~ being controllable ~~to cause the said means to restrict~~ to apply a restricting action on the occurrence of an electronic enabling signal.

2. (Original) The pocket of claim 1 wherein

the enabling signal is generated at the command of a user.

3. (Original) The pocket of claim 1 wherein

the enabling signal is generated in response to output signal status of at least one sensor.

4. (Original) The pocket of claim 3 wherein

the sensor is an orientation sensor arranged to produce an output signal dependent on the orientation of the pocket,

the output signal initiating generation of the enabling signal when the pocket adopts an orientation in which it is possible that objects placed in the pocket will fall out.

5. (Original) The pocket of claim 3 wherein

the sensor is an accelerometer arranged to produce an output signal dependent on acceleration experienced by the pocket,

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the output signal initiating generation of the enabling signal when the sensor output signal indicates that the pocket is undergoing jolting movement.

6. (Currently amended) The pocket of claim 1 wherein

the pocket is provided with a closable access opening communicating with interior pocket space and

the restrictor ~~said restriction means~~ serves to urge ~~closed~~ said the access opening closed on the occurrence of the enabling signal.

7. (Currently amended) The pocket of claim 1 wherein

the pocket includes at least one interior wall portion that ~~which~~ delimits interior pocket space and

the restrictor ~~said restriction means~~ serves to urge the at least one interior wall portion on occurrence of the enabling signal so as to reduce interior pocket space volume and to clasp any objects occupying the interior pocket space.

8. (Currently amended) The pocket of claim 1 wherein

the pocket includes at least two adjacent facing panels, each delimiting interior pocket space and

the restrictor ~~restriction means~~ serves to urge at least one of the panels towards the other one of the panels on occurrence of the enabling signal to clasp any objects occupying the interior pocket space.

9. (Currently amended) The pocket of claim 6, wherein

the restrictor ~~restriction means~~ includes an actuator component disposed in edge portions of the closable access opening,

the said actuator component undergoing a change in shape on occurrence of the enabling signal.

10. (Currently amended) The pocket of claim 7 wherein

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the restrictor ~~restriction means~~ includes an actuator component disposed in the at least one interior wall portion,

the said actuator component undergoing a change in shape on occurrence of the enabling signal.

11. (Currently amended) The pocket of claim 8 wherein

the restrictor ~~restriction means~~ includes an actuator component disposed in at least one of the panels,

the said actuator component undergoing a change in shape on occurrence of the enabling signal.

12. (Original) The pocket of claim 9 wherein

the actuator component is comprised of a portion of nickel-titanium alloy which reverts to a pre-determined dimension on being subject to an increase in temperature from a first temperature lower than a transitional temperature to a second temperature higher than a transitional temperature.

13. (Original) The pocket of claim 10 wherein

the actuator component is comprised of a portion of nickel-titanium alloy which reverts to a pre-determined dimension on being subject to an increase in temperature from a first temperature lower than a transitional temperature to a second temperature higher than a transitional temperature.

14. (Original) The pocket of claim 11 wherein

the actuator component is comprised of a portion of nickel-titanium alloy which reverts to a pre-determined dimension on being subject to an increase in temperature from a first temperature lower than a transitional temperature to a second temperature higher than a transitional temperature.

15. (Currently amended) The pocket of claim 12 wherein

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the said increase in temperature is obtained through the mechanism of Joule heating by passing an electrical current through the nickel-titanium alloy.

16. (Original) The pocket of claim 9 wherein
the actuator component includes a bimetallic strip.

17. (Original) The pocket of claim 10 wherein
the actuator component includes a bimetallic strip.

18. (Original) The pocket of claim 11 wherein
the actuator component includes a bimetallic strip.

19. (Currently amended) The pocket of claim 1 wherein
the said restricting action terminates on cessation of the enabling signal.

20. (Currently amended) ~~The restriction means of claim 1~~ A restrictor comprising:
a restrictive element that is configured to restrict the insertion of objects into, or
removal of objects from a pocket,
the restrictive element being controllable to apply a restricting action on the
occurrence of an electronic enabling signal.

21. (Currently amended) ~~An object garment, luggage item, personal accessory or furnishing~~
~~having the~~ comprising
a pocket that includes
a restrictive element that is configured to restrict the insertion of objects into,
or removal of objects from a pocket,
the restrictive element being controllable to apply a restricting action on the
occurrence of an electronic enabling signal ~~of claim 1.~~